MEMORIAL SUPPLEMENT.

SIMEON WALCHER HARKEY, D. D.

From the Lutheran Observer, March 8th, 1889.

DEATH OF DR. HARKEY.

It is a sad and suggestive coincidence that the announcement of the recent death of the Rev. Dr. S. W. Harkey, at Knoxville, Ills., on the 1st inst., and one of his valuable series of articles on "Lutheranism in the West," should appear in the same number of the OBSERVER, as is the case this week. These articles are of the greatest historic value, as our readers well know, and it is no disparagement to any one to say, that no other person in or out of the Lutheran church, except Dr. Harkey, could have prepared such a complete, satisfactory and impartial account of the rise and development of the Lutheran church in the West, in its various branches and nationalities. We have on hand one more article of the series prepared by Dr. Harkey, which will appear hereafter.

In the last letter received from him a short time ago, he alluded to his failing health and advanced years, and expressed the hope that he might live long enough to complete the series, for which he was still collecting the necessary material from various sources. But God has now called him to his rest and reward on high. We trust that some other competent person will take up the work and complete the series from the material which Dr. Harkey may have gathered.

From the Lutheran Observer, March 8th, 1889.

DEATH OF SIMEON W. HARKEY, D. D.

BY F. W. CONRAD, D. D.

On Friday, the 1st of March, we received a telegram from Knoxville, Ills., announcing the death of Dr. S. W. Harkey, at his home in that town on the morning of that day. As we had no intimation of his illness, this sad intelligence was altogether unexpected, and has pierced our heart with pain and sorrow. He was so long, widely and favorably known, that the mournful tidings of his demise, borne by the OBSERVER of this week, will be read with unfeigned regret in all parts of the church, and his loss deplored by a large circle of friends and acquaintances as a personal bereavement.

Having known Dr. Harkey for nearly fifty years, been associated with him in pastoral and educational work, both in the East and the West, for thirty years, and on the most intimate and uninterrupted terms of friendship, sanctified by brotherly love, from the day of our first acquaintance until that of his death, we instinctively shrink from the melancholy task of writing an obituary notice of him. But as Dr. Francis Springer was a fellow-student of his in the Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, and connected with him as a co-laborer in the Hillsboro Institute and Capital University at Springfield, Ills., and perhaps better acquainted with his character and work than any one else among his contemporaries, we have requested him to prepare a just tribute to the memory of his old friend and fellow laborer for publication in our columns. We cannot, however, refrain from giving our readers a brief sketch of the principal parts of the laborious life of our departed brother and fellow-laborer, drawn almost entirely from memory.

Rev. Simeon W. Harkey was born and raised in North Carolina. He was confirmed in his early youth, and under the conviction that he was called to the ministry, made his way on foot, with one or more other students from the South, to Gettysburg, where he prosecuted his preparatory studies in the "Old Gymnasium." He entered the theological seminary in 1832, and his name stands first on the roll of his class, of whom he was the last survivor. Francis Springer and Augustus Babb, of the class of 1831, still survive, and were fellow students with him in the Seminary. After his licensure, he supplied the pulpit of St. Matthew's church of Philadelphia for six months, after which he became pastor of the Woodsboro charge in Maryland, whence he was called to Frederick, in the same state, where we first became acquainted with him, during a visit to the Woodsboro pastorate in the winter of 1840–41. In 1852 he was called to the Professorship of Theology in "Illinois State University," at Springfield, and with which he remained in connection until its suspension in 1867. He was then called to the Lutheran Mission congregation in St. Louis, and during his labors there of about two years, a church was erected, and the membership considerably increased. On leaving St. Louis he took charge of the Lutheran church at Washington, Ills., in 1871, whence, after a pastorate of nine years, he removed to Knoxville, Ills., where he spent the last years of his active life, during which he served as pastor of the Irving charge, Montgomery county, visited the vacant congregations and encouraged them. Through his watchful care and timely interposition, Ansgari College, which had been diverted from its lawful ecclesiastical owners, was recovered and placed under the legal custodianship of the Illinois Synod, and conducted by Dr. Harkey, with several assistants, as the Knoxville Academy.

It thus appears that Dr. Harkey continued in the active service of the church about fifty five years. He did not, however, confine himself to the departments of church work just mentioned, but resorted to the pen to extend the sphere of his usefulness. He contributed articles to the LUTHERAN OBSERVER, as well as to the *Evangelical Review*. He also published a small work on "The Church's Best State," a Family Prayer Book, and a treatise on "Justification by Faith," all of which obtained a considerable circulation, and became the means of communicating correct views on the subjects treated of, and of fostering the spirit of devotion at the family altar.

Dr. Harkey had passed the Psalmist's allotted period of "three score and ten" years; nevertheless, his mental powers remained unimpaired, and although he felt the infirmities of age, he was still able to write, teach and preach with his accustomed ability to the end of his life, and he literally died in the harness of the gospel of Christ.

Dr. Harkey was endowed with more than ordinary powers of mind. He was a diligent student, and mastered what he studied; and by his native talents and industry he disciplined and stored his mind with useful knowledge, and increased his facility in writing and speaking. He was a good preacher. He made careful preparation, and preached with clearness, force and spiritual unction. He was mighty in the Scriptures, deeply versed in the workings of the Spirit, and wise in leading souls to Christ, and in "building them up in their most holy faith." He took a deep interest in young men, and was instrumental, by his counsels and assistance, to introduce at least a dozen into the ministry, as well as to prepare by his theological instructions a dozen or more to preach the gospel. Devoted to his work both as a pastor and a professor, he took an interest and part in all manner of church work.

Entering the ministry at the time of the reaction in the Lutheran church against a lifeless formalism and a latitudinarian Lutheranism, he avoided both, and became a zealous advocate of the revival of the Hallean type of true piety, as well as a firm believer in the true Lutheran doctrine of the real presence and the supernatural reception of the body and blood of Christ in the Lord's Supper. Ardently devoted to the Lutheran Church, he nevertheless fraternized with evangelical Christians and ministers of other Protestant denominations; and while he had no sympathy with the extreme symbolism and exclusiveness of our Missouri brethren, he at the same time recognized their sincerity, admired their piety, and gave them due credit for their activity, benevolence and self-denial in their church work.

Dr. Harkey married Miss Mitman of Philadelphia in his youth, by whom he had several children, one of whom Rev. James S. Harkey, of Guilderland Centre, N. Y., survives him. Two of his brothers entered the ministry—James M. and Sidney L.—the former of whom is dead, while the latter still lives. After the death of his first wife he married Mrs. Scherer, of Illinois, who, with two of her daughters, constituted his household, and mourn his loss. We tender them and his other relatives and friends our sincere condolence in their sudden bereavement, and trust that it may be so sanctified as to result in their everlasting reunion in heaven.

"Remember them who have spoken unto you the Word of God." "He being dead, yet speaketh."

Last Hours of Dr. Harkey.

The following letter from Mrs Harkey, received since our last issue, gives a touching account of the illness and death of Dr. Harkey, which we have been unable to present to our readers at an earlier day. His life and labors for half a century were so wholly given to the church, that his "ruling passion" asserted itself in his last hours during the delirium of the last struggle with death. The following is the letter of Mrs Harkey, which will be read with profound interest:

KNOXVILLE, ILLS., March 11th, '89

DR. CONRAD: To-day I mail to you Nos. 44 and 45 of Dr. Harkey's "Reminiscences of the Lutheran Church in the West," which were on his table ready for you before his death. I also found part of No. 46, which I will send to you in a few days.

Respecting the doctor's sickness and death, I can only give a brief statement. He was taken sick on Sunday night, February 24th, and died March 1st. He was taken with bilious fever (an old complaint of his) and neuralgia in his side and about the heart. On Monday he was better, and he thought he would be over it in a few days. On Thursday, a lady called to see him, and he looked bright, and told her he thought he was over it, so that he would be able to go to his school on the following Monday. But at nine the same evening he became excited and restless, and talked a great deal. At twelve o'clock the fever left him and the crisis came, and as he had but little strength before he was taken sick, of course there was nothing left then for him to build on. After that he knew us all, but he would become excited, and he preached and prayed and repeated scripture, and talked about many things. He also seemed to be teaching his German class and his Latin class, and then he seemed to be teaching children—he repeated the creed and told them to repeat it until they understood it perfectly; then he repeated a favorite hymn of his,

"Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah."

Then he preached again, and finally he turned to me and said he did not believe he would be able to go through the service. I told him he would be able to preach in a little while, and that he should be quiet and I would sing for him. A little while after, he wanted to go to his study. He said, "I must go and finish my work." We carried him in, and it seemed to quiet him for a little while. He then wanted to go to his bed again, and a short time after that he stretched out his arm and looked and pointed upward. I asked him what he saw. He said, "I see a lost child, and I must save it." A few minutes afterward the excitement and neuralgia went to his heart, and before I could call any one the end came. He passed away quietly, peacefully, and all was serene. He is now with the "blood washed and redeemed" about whom he talked so much.

I have written this short sketch to you and he were great friends, and supposed you would like to know his last days on earth were spent.

Respectfully,
MRS. L. R HARKEY.

From the Lutheran Observer, March 22d, 1889.

REMINISCENCES OF DR. HARKEY.

On the "true Yoke-fellow" and "Brother Beloved."

BY F. W. CONRAD, D. D.

I were associated with Dr. Harkey in many departments of church work and for so long a time, that the application applied by Paul to Epenetus—"true yoke-fellow"—will fitly describe the relations we bore to each other as "laborers together" for fifty years in the Lutheran Church, the recollections of which, called forth by his recent death, we propose to add to the tributes to his memory that have already appeared in the OBSERVER.

Dr. Harkey was born on the 3d of December, 1811. He was our senior in age and entered the ministry about five years before we did. We became acquainted with him in 1840, at Frederick, Md., and this acquaintance was the occasion of his inviting us to preach the preparatory discourse at the meeting of the Maryland Synod in his congregation in October, 1842. After the adjournment of the synod, special religious services were continued for several weeks, during which we assisted him, and a large number of persons found peace in believing, some of whom still remain and adorn their profession with a godly walk and conversation. And from this time until 1850, when we removed from Hagerstown, Md., to Springfield, O., we assisted each other in such protracted efforts.

In 1844–45 we preached a series of discourses to the students of Pennsylvania College, during which Dr. Harkey was our co-laborer in the work. He understood everything connected with such special efforts, and was at home both in the pulpit and the inquiry-meeting, as his work on "Constant Revivals of Religion," which he regarded as "The Church's Best State," abundantly proves.

Dr. Harkey was a delegate to the General Synod at New York, in 1848, at which he was placed on the committee to prepare an improved edition of Luther's Small Catechism, and was thus associated with us in our first efforts to actualize our ideal of such a catechism. And it was a matter of special gratification to us that his life was spared to see its publication, and that he gave both its first, and its revised editions his cordial endorsement.

In 1850 we accepted a call to a professorship in the Theological department of Wittenberg College, Springfield, O., and in 1852, Dr. Harkey was called to the professorship of theology in Illinois State University, at Springfield, Ill., and we thus became engaged in building up two institutions of learning in the west, and in the prosecution of which we labored in their theological and literary departments, and acted as pastors and editors at the same time.

In Dr. Harkey's efforts to establish Illinois State University, we sympathized with and were often consulted by him. We took occasion on most of our western tours to visit Springfield, and embraced every opportunity to assist and encourage him. On one of these visits, we preached the sermon at the dedication of the English Lutheran church, and delivered a literary lecture in a hall.

While on our way to the dedication of the new church in Kansas City on May 31st, 1868, we learned from Dr. Harkey at St. Louis, that his mission congregation was about to erect a church, and the question

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whether they would build it on a lot leased for twenty years, or on one purchased and owned by themselves, was to be decided. Realizing that on proper decision of this question future of this congregation would , we returned to St. Louis, at request, and on Sunday, June 7, preached in the hall occupied by the congregation, took part in the conference that followed, gave our judgment against leasing, and in favor of buying a lot. After a careful consideration of the subject it was decided not to lease but to buy and build. Had the decision been otherwise, the church then erected could not have been sold and utilized in building the present large and beautiful St. Mark's, the lease would have run out last year, and the question whether the congregation could have survived after making such a mistake, and whether if it had, it would now either *have* or be able to erect a church, none but God can tell.

Having visited Knoxville at the time Mr. Knox was about donating to the Lutheran church a lot and building for a college, delivered a lecture on Education, and held a conference with the donor, we were deeply pained when the institution got into the hands of Rev. Princell and his associates, and in November, 1883, visited Dr. Harkey at Knoxville, to look into the matter. After consultation we visited Mr. Princell at the college, and spent the evening with him. He received Dr. H. and ourselves cordially, and during our interview very freely expressed his views on symbols, doctrines, synods, the church, etc. From his utterances we learned that he was an avowed disciple of Waldenstrom, and not sound in the Lutheran faith. Dr. Harkey subsequently wrote down the views expressed by him, and as signed by Dr. Harkey and ourselves, it would have become available in court, in case a trial for the possession of the property had become necessary, but which by the judicious management of brother Harkey was avoided, and the property recovered without

of Dr. Harkey, we quote the following extract from his last personal letter to us, dated July 18, 1888:

"I have been absent from home for five weeks in the southern part of the state, laboring among our churches there in behalf of Knoxville Academy and Missionary Institute. . . . I must push on this work. We are suffering immensely in Illinois—in fact we are retrograding, for the want of the right kind of young English ministers. We need them here and in this great Northwest by scores and hundreds, and are doing nothing to get them. The few that come from Gettysburg and the other seminaries east of us are but a drop in the bucket. . . . We can wait no longer; we must seek to help ourselves, or perish!"

These words are ominous. They reveal the heavy burden on his heart. We think we can fathom and interpret their profound meaning and significance. For fifteen years he had labored and endured hardships in establishing an institution for preparing English Lutheran ministers, and was then compelled to relinquish his work. And for twenty years more he has seen the Missouri Synod build up its Concordia Seminary at St. Louis, and appropriate the building erected by him at Springfield for a pro-seminar, the Iowa Synod occupy Meridota and establish their seminary there, and the Augustana Synod build up another theological institution at Rock Island, while the General Synod had done nothing on that vast territory, teeming with anglicised Lutherans, to found a theological institution for the preparation of their young men as pastors for her English congregations. And as in the providence of God he was called to conduct the Knoxville Academy, he felt constrained to impart theological instruction to such young men as promised to become useful in the ministry, and who could not afford to go to the seminaries of the East for their theological education. In the light of these facts, the Harkey addressed to subject seem rather despair than the ex- for an adequate for our churches in

From the Lutheran Observer, March 15th, 1889.

REV. S. W. HARKEY, D. D.,

OF KNOXVILLE, ILLINOIS.

A Memoir and Tribute.

BY REV. FRANCIS SPRINGER, D. D.,
CHAPLAIN OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, SPRINGFIELD, ILLS.

As a visitor from the Lutheran Synod of Maryland, Rev S. W. Harkey met, in Springfield, Ill, with the third annual convention of the Synod of Illinois, August 4th, 1848. The roll call of that convention was responded to by six ministers and two laymen. It was yet the day of small things for our church in the West. Soon after his return to the East, a correspondence with him was opened by one of our men, with a view to secure his co-operation in the upbuilding of our institution of learning, then just started at Hillsboro, Ill. The plan agreed upon by the Board of Trustees was, that brother S. W Harkey should be Professor of Theology; and that before removing west, he should operate in the east as agent of the Institution, for the endowment of his professorship, in the sum of $10,000. In pursuance of this engagement, he published, in 1850, a pamphlet of 16 pages, entitled "A Plea for Hillsboro College and Seminary, by S. W. Harkey, agent for the Institution."

His removal to Illinois was effected in 1852, with location in Springfield, the capital of the State. And in the spring of the same year our flourishing seat of learning was transferred from Hillsboro to Springfield, with change of name to "Illinois State University." Dr. Harkey immediately issued a pamphlet of 16 pages under the title, "A Plan to raise Thirty Thousand Dollars, permanently to establish and endow Illinois State University."

President pro tem. "Olive Branch," etc.

In 1856, by request of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Harkey assumed the position of president pro tem of the Uni- until the inaugu- of Rev. Wm. M. Lerch, D. July, 1858. During several years of his connection with our seat of learning at the State capital, the worthy Professor of Theology issued a small monthly paper called the "Olive Branch," devoted to the interests of the Institution and the Lutheran Evangelism in the West

In consequence of disagreements among the brethren of the Synod of Illinois and the Synod of Northern Illinois, respecting the support and management of our educational work, Dr Harkey deemed it his duty to withdraw from the service which had engrossed 15 years of his earnest and active life. This step was not entered upon without the most anxious consideration and devout prayer for guidance from on high. During the period of his professorship in the University, he also served as pastor of the English Lutheran church in that city.

He was not long in waiting for an opportunity to labor in the cause of Christ. The Lutheran Mission in St. Louis, projected by Rev. Morris Officer, needed a judicious and faithful missionary, adapted to the peculiar conditions of such work in that locality. In compliance with an invitation of the little company of only 14 members, and with a commission from the Lutheran Board of Home Missions, the good brother entered his new field of work, September 29th, 1867. That was probably the most exacting and severest labor of his life in the West. He resigned the mission in October, 1869. The record of Dr Harkey's own pen in relation to his connection with the St. Louis mission is: "It came near costing me my life, as I can truly say, I never had one really well day while I resided in that city." But it will ever continue an honor to the Doctor's name, that the beginning made by him and followed up by the eminently successful career of Rev. M. Rhodes, D. D., has triumphed at last in a magnificent success.

In the following few years of rest and recuperation, the subject of this brief memoir turned again to the use of his pen for the instruction of his fellowmen. The product is a 12mo book of 250 pages on "Justification by Faith as held and Taught by Lutherans," or "The Lutheran Doctrine of the Inner Life." This volume is from the press of the Lutheran Board of Publication, Philadelphia, 1875. The author treats this theme with all the force of masterly conviction which invariably characterized the utterances of S. W. Harkey, D. D. It is probably the master-piece of his pen

In 1871 he was called to the Lutheran church of Washington, Tazewell county, Ills., which he served until 1880, after which he moved to Knoxville. At a later period (1884) he served as pastor of the Irving charge, Montgomery county, Ill. His latest endeavors in the interest of the Lutheran Church, —which he held most precious and sacred—were in the way of recovering Knoxville Academy to Lutheran control, as was originally intended by its founders.

Personally,

Dr. S. W. Harkey was a man of commanding presence, forcible speech, pleasing manner, honest, earnest and determined of purpose; an eloquent and effective preacher, a painstaking and industrious worker, and was greatly respected by all who knew him He was a frequent delegate from the West to the General Synod, and in 1857 was elected president of that venerable body. For about two years past the pages of the LUTHERAN OBSERVER have been freighted with valuable contributions to the history of our church in the Valley of the Mississippi. This series of articles from the pen of Dr. Harkey have no doubt been read by many patrons of this our very useful church paper. These "reminiscences" are to be regarded as the last act in the career of an eventful and useful life. As the soldier in armor gives up his life on the field of martial honor, so our brother, with pen in hand, succumbed before his last page was finished. Though the pilgrim of a journey ranging through the stretch of three score and seventeen years, he had not thrust from him the weapons of his manly and Christian warfare, but he kept well burnished for constant use to the end

Death and Burial.

Rev. S. W. Harkey, D. D., died at his home in Knoxville, Ills., at 8 a. m. March 1st, 1889. He was born in North Carolina, December 3d, 1811. His age therefore was 77 years, 2 months, 29 days.

When telegraphic information of his death reached Springfield, the place of his former residence, the writer of this obituary and memoir, acting as temporary supply of the pulpit of the English Lutheran church (the late pastor, Rev. B. F. Crouse, having resigned and being absent) delivered a funeral discourse in memory of the departed brother, taking for text, "Blessed is that man that maketh the Lord his trust," Ps. xl. 4. This was Sunday a. m., March 3d. On the arrival of the remains the following Monday evening, information was brought that appropriate funeral services had been rendered on the same Sunday, in Knoxville, by a rector of the Episcopal church of that place, Rev. Dr. Leffingwell After the usual liturgic service, Dr. Leffingwell spoke as follows:

Simeon Walcher Harkey, D. D., after serving as pastor nearly 20 years in the East, was elected to the chair of theology in the Lutheran Seminary at Springfield, Ills., where he made an honorable record and became widely known as one of the leading divines of his denomination. Since his coming to Knoxville, about seven years ago, he has ceased not to preach and teach, continuing his active ministry in school and congregation long after the majority of men have ceased to work. The example of his godly life, of his energy, perseverance, and fidelity to duty, has the admiration and gratitude of all who knew him. Truly it may be said, that like a good soldier he died at his post. Amid discouragements which would have disheartened many younger men, he kept bravely on, nothing doubting that his work should not be in vain in the Lord.

Dr. Harkey was respected and loved by all. It seems hardly possible that such a man should have an enemy in the world. He was so good, so unassuming, so ready to bear all things and do all things for Christ! He was no busybody in other men's matters, but quietly kept on as Providence seemed to lead, uncomplaining and unselfish, doing his duty in that state of life to which it pleased God to call him. In the comparatively humble work of his declining years, there was nothing to excite the applause of the world, and doubtless for this reason it failed to attract the attention and support which it deserved. As we think now of the career and character of our departed brother, we realize that Knoxville has lost one of its most learned and most worthy citizens. We knew Dr. Harkey only in the period of his declining strength, but age could not dim the shining qualities of a sanctified soul, nor take from a consecrated life its crown of glory and honor. In his death religion has lost one of its noblest examples, education has lost an able and conscientious teacher, society has lost an influence for good, a family has lost one who was dearly loved and honored. With sympathy for those most deeply bereaved, the entire community unite in expressions of respect for the departed, and sorrowing that we shall see his face no more on earth. He has fought the good fight, he has finished his course, and there is laid up for him a crown of rejoicing which the righteous Judge shall give him at the last day.

On the sad journey from Knoxville were Mrs. Harkey, the widow of the deceased, and his son Rev. James S. Harkey, pastor of the Lutheran church at Guilderland, N. Y. Arriving at the State Capital late in the afternoon of Monday, March 4th, the coffined form was immediately conveyed to the beautiful city of the dead, Oak Ridge Cemetery. A number of old acquaintances, former parishioners and neighbors of the lamented one, followed to the grave the form of one whom in life they had learned to respect. The order for the burial of the dead as prescribed by the General Synod was there rendered by the writer of this article. The sun, already dimmed by mist, was fast descending toward the horizon when we gently lowered the casket, with its precious treasure, deep down in the earthy bed provided for it, by the side of his former wife and her mother; but the spirit hath ascended to God who gave it.

Springfield, Ill., March 8th, 1889.

From the Lutheran Observer

REV. SIMEON W. HARKEY, D. D.

A Brother's Tribute.

EDITOR LUTHERAN OBSERVER: Will you permit a bereaved and only brother to enjoy the melancholy pleasure of bringing an humble tribute to the memory of the departed? I have not only lost an affectionate brother, but in the true sense of the word a faithful and honored father. For *fifty years* he has been my most intimate counselor, adviser, and trusted friend. We have made our pilgrimage through life side by side, and hand in hand, he as the oldest and I as the youngest of the same father and mother, helping each other over the rugged places and dangerous obstructions by mutual encouragement, sympathy and prayer. Three days before his death I had his last letter, without any indications of the swiftly approaching departure. But he has crossed over to the other side and left me standing on the brink of the solemn border-river, wistfully gazing in the direction of his disappearance. I cannot say *good-bye*, but simply *God bless thee till we meet again!* Who and what the deceased was it is not needful now newly to unfold. His character and works are doubtless well-known on both sides of the boundary line between the seen and the unseen. And having waited long for the invitation to "come," he hailed it with gladness, and found an "abundant entrance" and a joyful welcome among the redeemed.

And now he walks with the multitude of the heavenly host, in crowns and robes, over golden streets, with thousands of familiar but glorified faces all around him, up to the great temple not made with hands, and to the worship of the triune God, without a vail, or glass, or faith, or hope, but with an overflowing presence, realization, fruition, knowledge, glory, fulness of joy, and pleasures that are forever more!

"Blessed are the dead!" Or rather blessed are the living, that live by death! And blessed art thou, my brother, from henceforth and forever more! SIDNEY L. HARKEY.

North Lima, O., March 5th, 1889.